I 28.135/2:986/8

MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20241

Donald Paul Hodel, Secretary

Robert C. Horton, Director

For information call Dennis S. Kostick
Telephone: (202) 634-1177

For information concerning distribution of this report, call: (412) 675-4411

Sodium Compounds, Monthly

COMPLIMENTS

ORIGINAL

U.S. PRODUCTION OF NATURAL SODA ASH AND NATURAL SODIUM SULFATE, AUGUST 1986

Natural soda ash production in August increased 3% compared with that of the previous month, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. Soda ash production in August was 747,000 short tons, 2% more than that of August 1985. Wyoming trona production in August was 1,106,283 tons.

Apparent consumption of total soda ash in August was 577,000 tons, 1% less than the August 1985 level of 583,000 tons.

Exports and imports of soda ash in August were 275,543 tons and 10,859 tons, respectively.

Prepared in the Division of Industrial Minerals, October 7, 1986.
Printed and distributed by the Branch of Publication and Distribution.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Table 1.--Salient soda ash and natural sodium sulfate statistics
(Short tons)

Period	Soda ash1/		Natural sodium sulfate	
	Production	Ending stocks2/	Production	Ending stocks
1985:				
January	666,427	318,374	W	W
February	648,890	313,988	W	W
March	703,603	313,432	W	W
April	664,932	280,094	W	W
May	753,457	298,488	W	W
June	690,512	244,944	W	W
July	710,871	278,720	W	W
August	729,255	324,894	W	W
September	671,574	299,566	W	W
October	793,386	298,710	W	W
November	739,137	350,415	W	W
December	739,011	391,670	W	W
1985 total	8,511,055	391,670	321,835	31,325
1986:				
January	715,912	448,504	W	W
February	655,675	390,374	W	W
March	743,418	437,075	W	W
April	611,186	348,640	W	35,381
May	795,046	318,177	W	41,648
June	761,881	319,011	W	35,140
July	728,264	334,456	W	40,938
August	746,859	239,778	W	46,133
1986 year-to-date	5,758,241	--	257,463	--

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.
1/Natural only beginning in Feb. 1986. Synthetic soda ash production was terminated February 1986 when Allied-Signal Corp.'s Syracuse, NY, facility closed permanently.
2/Includes natural and synthetic. Some imports are included in ending inventories in 1986.

Table 2.--U.S. exports of soda ash and sodium sulfate
(Thousand short tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Sodium carbonate, calcined		Sodium sulfate					
			Crude		Refined		Total	
	Quantity	Value 1/	Quantity	Value 1/	Quantity	Value 1/	Quantity	Value 1/
1985:								
Jan.-Aug.	1,119	108,284	56	5,323	17	2,523	74	7,846
1986:								
January	194	23,347	1	83	(3/)	41	1	124
February	110	12,600	7	680	(3/)	77	7	757
March	149	18,038	8	791	(3/)	59	8	850
April	92	9,662	5	460	2	547	7	1,007
May	259	29,689	12	1,096	1	51	13	1,147
June	180	21,281	7	652	(3/)	83	7	735
July	146	15,838	5	518	(3/)	151	5	669
August	276	30,940	12	1,075	(3/)	38	12	1,113
1986 to date	1,406	161,395	57	5,355	4	1,047	2/61	6,402

r/Revised.
1/Free alongside ship (f.a.s.) value at U.S. port.
2/Data may not add to total shown because of independent rounding.
3/Less than ½ unit, included in total.
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Table 3.--U.S. exports of soda ash by country in August 1986
(Short tons)

Country	Quantity	Percent of total
Hong Kong	81,050	29
China	39,904	15
Brazil	32,936	12
South Africa, Republic of	24,256	9
Japan	23,589	9
New Zealand	16,819	6
Malaysia	11,023	4
Indonesia	8,820	3
Phillipines	8,740	3
Canada	8,521	3
Peru	7,648	3
Mexico	6,234	2
Other	6,003	2
Total	275,543	100

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Table 4.--U.S. imports of soda ash and sodium sulfate
(Thousand short tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Sodium carbonate, calcined & sesquicarbonate		Sodium sulfate					
			Crude1/		Anhydrous		Total	
	Quantity	Value2/	Quantity	Value2/	Quantity	Value2/	Quantity	Value2/
1985:								
Jan.-Aug.-----	18	2,445	25	1,702	97	8,210	3/123	9,912
1986:								
January-------	4	605	4	248	16	1,209	20	1,457
February------	4	636	3	169	12	885	15	1,054
March---------	8	1,260	2	96	16	1,217	18	1,313
April---------	6	927	3	149	20	1,557	23	1,706
May-----------	7	1,042	3	152	15	1,209	18	1,361
June----------	12	1,805	3	164	10	779	13	943
July----------	14	2,030	2	143	11	787	13	930
August--------	11	1,649	2	165	13	952	15	1,117
1986 to date----	66	9,954	22	1,286	113	8,595	135	9,881

1/Includes Glauber's salt.
2/Customs, insurance, and freight (c.i.f.) value at U.S. port.
3/Data do not add to total shown because of independent rounding.
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Table 5.--U.S. apparent consumption of soda ash
(Thousand short tons)

Period	Production	Imports	Exports	Stock increases	Stock decreases	Apparent consumption 1/
1985:						
January	666	1	116	--	3	554
February	649	--	142	--	4	511
March	704	1	80	--	1	626
April	665	1	196	--	33	503
May	753	1	185	18	--	551
June	691	2	122	--	54	625
July	711	4	173	34	--	508
August	729	8	108	46	--	583
September	672	14	213	--	25	498
October	793	8	165	--	1	637
November	739	7	139	52	--	555
December	739	9	2/108	41	--	599
1985 total 3/	8,511	56	1,747	4/70	--	6,750
1985:						
Jan.-Aug.	5,568	18	1,122	3	--	4,461
1986:						
January	716	4	5/194	57	--	469
February	656	4	110	--	58	608
March	743	8	149	47	--	555
April	611	6	92	--	88	613
May	795	7	259	--	30	573
June	762	12	180	1	--	593
July	728	14	146	15	--	581
August	747	11	276	--	95	577
1986 to date	5,758	66	1,406	--	5/151	4,569

1/Production + imports - exports + stock changes.
2/Includes 16,276 tons shipped in December 1985 but erroneously credited to January 1986.
3/Data may not add to total shown because of independent rounding.
4/Net stock increase.
5/Excludes 16,276 tons shipped in December 1985 but erroneously credited to January 1986.
6/Net stock decrease.